

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A focusing channel device which focuses fluid containing micro particles to flow through only a predetermined area so that the micro particles flow in a line, the focusing channel device comprising:

a nozzle formed by a left wall and a right wall each of which comprises an inclination surface,

the cross sectional area of the nozzle in vertical direction decreases from the entrance of the nozzle toward the exit of the nozzle, and

the cross sectional view of the channel in horizontal direction has a shape that is asymmetric for the central line in the length direction,

wherein the inclination surface of one of the left wall or the right wall, which forms the nozzle, is ~~closer~~ placed on the entrance of the channel device than and the inclination surface of the other wall is placed at a distance L from the entrance of the channel device, wherein the distance L is set by a factor of a diameter of the micro particle.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The focusing channel device according to Claim 21, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left or right wall is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall by a diameter of the micro particle.

4. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the left and right walls are fixed walls formed by solid material.

5. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the left and right walls are fluid walls formed by flow of other fluids.

6. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein upper wall and lower bottom wall are formed parallel, and are fixed walls.

7. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the height of the nozzle of the channel is decreasing from the entrance of the nozzle toward the exit of the nozzle by the inclination surfaces of

the upper wall and lower bottom wall, and the inclination surfaces of the upper wall and lower bottom walls are formed asymmetrically.

8. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the height of the channel is not less than the diameter of the micro particle.

9. (Previously presented) The focusing channel device according to Claim 1, wherein the micro particle is a bead, a cell or a bacterium.

10. (Previously presented) A micro particle analysis device comprising:

the focusing channel device according to Claim 1;

a photographing means for irradiating light on the micro particles flowing in a line in the focusing channel device and photographing the micro particles; and

an image analysis means for analyzing the photographed image of the micro particles.

11. (Previously presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left wall or the right wall which forms

the nozzle is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall.

12. (Previously presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 11, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left wall or the right wall is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall by a diameter of the micro particle.

13. (Previously Presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the left and right walls are fixed walls formed by solid material.

14. (Previously Presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the left and right walls are fluid walls formed by flow of other fluids.

15. (Previously Presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein upper wall and lower bottom wall are formed parallel, and are fixed walls.

16. (Previously Presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the height of the nozzle of the channel is decreasing from the entrance of

the nozzle toward the exit of the nozzle by the inclination surfaces of the upper wall and lower bottom wall, and the inclination surfaces of the upper wall and lower bottom walls are formed asymmetrically.

17. (Previously Presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the height of the channel is not less than the diameter of the micro particle.

18. (Previously presented) The micro particle analysis device according to Claim 10, wherein the micro particle is a bead, a cell or a bacterium.

19. (New) The focusing channel device according to Claim 3, wherein the inclination surface of one of the left wall or the right wall is closer to the entrance of the channel device than the inclination surface of the other wall by 7 micrometers.